



Bird Nest STEM Challenge



Team: _____

CHALLENGE:

Design a nest using at least 4 different materials that will fit 3 eggs. It should also hold a marble safely even when you pick up your nest and gently rock it.

PLAN:

What type of bird?

Where would the nest be located?

Test the materials: which will work in the nest?

	Strong ?	Flexible ? (bends)	Fills spaces?	Use in Nest?
Bark				
Dry grass				
Pine needles				
Corn Husks				
Sticks				
Leaves				

Using a sticky material (mud/clay)

Yes

No

Using a soft material inside nest

Yes

No

CREATE: Build your nest. Did you have to change materials?
Why?

TEST

Test 1: Do eggs fit below nest rim?	Yes	No
Test 2: Does nest hold together when lifted?	Yes	No
Test 3: Does marble stay in nest when rocked?	Yes	No
Optional Test 4: Support weight of 3 chicks and parent	Yes	No

Did you complete the challenge? Are you happy with your design? Does it look like a real bird's nest?

THINK what did you learn from trying to build a nest?

IMPROVE How would you modify your nest if you had more time or materials? Why would this make it better?



Larry Hogan, Governor; Mark Belton, Secretary
dnr.maryland.gov